FOREIGN GOSSIP.

-The enormous indemnity France paid Germany raised its debt to \$6,000,--Hereafter English soldiers will not

be allowed to smoke in the streets in the daytime. -The Prince of Wales' stables cost him over eighty thousand dollars a year.

The Princess loves dogs. She has over -The four most important towns of Australasia are now Melbourne, population 282,947; Sydney, 224,211; Adelaide, 103,864, and Auckland, 60,000.

-The fall of a meteor on ice was lately witnessed on the coast of Norway. a hole a foot and a half in diameter being made through eight inches of ice. A Hebrew in Pereslavl died lately at

the given age of one hundred and seven-teen years. The Krevlanen reports that he had been arranging to marry for the ninth time shortly before his death. -A study of six hundred and fifty Italian thunder-storms has shown Signor Ferria that every thunder-storm is behind a depression of barometer and hygrometer, and before one of the ther-

-A pearl that is declared the largest three thousand one hundred and fifty inches in c.rcumference, and weighed three ounces.

-Experiments in Austrian garrisons prove that where the floors of barracks are painted with tar the collection of dust in cracks is prevented, and there is a consequent diminution in irritative diseases of the eye. There is also a great diminut on of parasites.

- Tarsus, in Asia Minor, is the terminus of a new railway crossing that country. A section of the road has just been officially inaugurated with a jubilee and a free excursion to the notables. The Arab dignitaries, however, generally preferred to stick to their camels. -An experiment to test the speed of the swallow's flight has just been made at Pavia. Two hen birds were taken from their broods, carried to Milan, and there released at a given hour. Both made their way back to their nests in thirteen minutes, which gave their rate of speed at eighty-seven and a half miles an hour.

-The London World says that on 's return to London she found awaiting on her table several pale blue velvet boxes from Lady and Mr. Alfred a brooch about four inches long, representing two large pansies in white brilliants, with nine big blood-red rubies in inch-wide gold frame, and on one side names all in diamonds and rub'es; and increase of such constructions sundry other trifles in gold and silver.

THE PROOF-READER.

A Vallant Member of a Long-Abused Pro-

with the "intelligent compositor" the has made a writer say "see the pale martyr with shirt on fire," when he when he wrote "Alma Mater," and to pearance of provisions.

The silence of the proof-reader has the enormous increase in the last fifty been taken as evidence of his guilt, or that he was proof against reproof and —in short, of all constructions filling as ind sposes as those of the types. dently borne contumely long enough, and he rises to "hurl back" the charges, and to "nail lies to the counter" and to "thrust the base falsehoods down the throats of his cowardly vituperators," as the contributors to that popular periodical—the Congressional Record—are in the habit of saying. The worm has turned at last, and a rather lively turn

He expresses his wonder to the editor of the Boston Literary World that nothing has ever been said in praise of proof-readers. Of course this might surprise a proof-reader, but any experienced writer for the press will not astonished at it at all. The writer will know that he has time and time again wr'tten the most glowing eulogies of proof-readers and their assistants; trib-utes that statesmen might envy and good men eraye. But the proof-reader ias never allowed them to appear in print. Where the writer has said that the proof-reader was "a benefactor to his race," it has appeared "as a benight el scape-grace;" when he has called him the "salt of the earth" it comes to the surface as "the scum of the earth: when he has spoken of the "ease and comfort" a good proof-reader gives him, he is made to say an "escaped conviet," and when he has referred to the proof-reader's "saintly grace," the pubfirst learns of him as a "snake-inthe-grass." That is why nothing has ever appeared in print in praise of the

This protesting proof-reader is not willing to believe that every one of his species is "full of malice toward authors and hates the whole world. And then the man actually goes on to speak a good word for himself and his kind. At this rate the barber will be defending his talking; the mother-in-law will clamor for a hearing; the plumber will be piping up in his own behalf; the Chinese laundryman claiming a right to live an honest and cleanly life; and turkeys speak their mind about Thanks-What is the world coming to? However, since the proof-reader has been graciously allowed to say that his soul's his own, it is perhaps worth while, as a mild amusement, to hear how he puts the case. In the first place he says that an author intent on what he is writing, is necessarily careless about his hand-writing. He can not break the flow of his thoughts to dot his has his own peculiar permanship. The proof-reader takes up his manuscript and tries to eatch the purport of the author's thought. He has scarcely done so, when in comes another mass of proof and manuscript of an entirely dif-ferent character and an entirely different pen; and a new thread has to be picked up until another interrup-This is not for a moment, but all day, all the week, all the year, all his After puzzling himself until he is half blind, his brain weary, and work pushing upon him incessantly, a letter may be left out or a comma inserted in wrong place, when slam-bang goes a voiley at the proof-reader! He has

zeen conscientious, patient, worthy proof-readers shrink and cringe when

an author visits a printing office, lest something might have escaped their no-

proof-reader for some trifling oversight

has seen an author scold a

when that same day the proof-reader had corrected an historical blunder which would have cost the author dearly had it seen the light. He has seen an author brag of his penmanship, and when his manuscript has been sent to him, because it was unreadable, he bim-

self was scarcely able to decipher it.

Indeed it would not be surprising to see a proof-readers' union formed, the members of which should take a solemn oath to ruin authors by letting the world see their blunders and inaccuracies. For the wrongs of the long-suffering proofreader are many, his grievances great--Detroit Free Press.

LIGHTNING STROKES.

A Plausible Explanation of the Remarka-

The researches of Prof. von Petzold Karsten, Weber and others have proved that the number of damaging strokes of lightning has consider, bly increased during the last fifty years, and this increase can not be explained by the theory that, owing to the growing number of houses, factories, etc., the number of lightning strokes increased proportionately; to the contrary, this number in Europe was sold in London lately for ought to decrease, as every building, even when not protected by a lightningdollars. It was two inches long and rod, effects an equilibrium of the opposite electric potentials, and therefore the number of lightning strokes ought relatively to decrease with the relative numbuildings. This, indeed, is proved by the fact that in the space of one year among one hundred thousand buildings there occurred but thirteen cases of lightning stroke in citagainst twenty-three strokes on buildings in the country. We, therefore, have to take this natural phenomenon from another point of view, and to consider the ratio of damaging or other strokes to the number of buildings in a certain district. This ratio, called by the German naturalists blitzgefahr (danger from lightning), increased in the kingdom of Bayaria from 1844 to 1882 three-fold (according to records of insurance companies even five-fold). and other countries show the same increase.

As in nature each phenomenon must have its cause, the question arises: To what cause is due the above-mentioned facts? And this question not only is of scientific interest, but also of great practical importance. A great many theories have already been advanced to e Rothschild, the first one containing explain this phenomenon; among others that, owing to the decrease woodland, houses are more and more made the projecting points of a certain it; heart all diamonds, and a large ruby area, and therefore attract the lightin the middle, goes with the brooch; a ning; besides, this decrease effects a eigar-box of violet leather, with an greater rise in temperature in summer, and, in consequence, more "M. Ernest Nicolini;" on the other, merous thunder-storms. Others find the cause of it in the large gas and water works, weather-cocks, etc. But this theory does not explain why, especially country houses, which commonly lack these kind of constructions, are mostly exposed to danger from lightning. Admitting that these The proof-reader has long shared causes may to some extent explain the increase of danger from lightning, they reputation for that total depravity which are not sufficient to fully show the surprising increase of strokes during so short a period. There must be a more and fundamental wrote in, "sheet of fire;" and to ask Through what can the electrical ine'is there no barn in Guilford," when he tensity during a thunder-storm be meant "is there no balm in Gilead:" to so strongly increased that a larger numspeak of his love of "alum water" ber of lightning strokes pass over to the earth than was the case heretofore? It is not so much the increasing number speak of "a mysterious dispensation of of thunder-storms as their greater force as "a mysterious disap- which produced the danger. As the main cause we now point out

-in short, of all constructions filling to correct his own errors the atmosphere with smoke, pors, particles of dust of every description. When we consider that every day thousands of locomotives thousands of steamers go around the earth; that thousands of factories of all kinds daily emit enormous quantities of smoke, vapor and dust into the air: that, especially in cities, the large number of houses produce immense quantities of smoke and dust, the assertion will not seem incredible that there is certainly one hundred times the smoke dust and gases absorbed in the atmosohere that there was fifty years ago. Already with the naked eye the impure state of the atmosphere may be noticed. Go through the coal districts of Manchester, England, through those of Pennsylvania, through the city of Pittsburgh, and you will notice a layer of vapor constantly hovering over them; the air is filled with foul gases, and every object is more or less covered

with the settling particles of dust. The conditions being established, we nave to consider their relations to the violence of thunder-storms. To give the reader a better conception of this relation we will briefly discuss the theory of the thunder-storm and the origin of electricity thereby developed. Friction is now generally accepted to be the cause of the electricity in a thunder-storm. Friction between air and particles of ice (according to Luvine) or between air and mole cules of water (according to Andries) is the main cause of that electricity. When besides these factors particles of dust are filling the atmosphere the development of electricity is highly increased. the ejection of steam and ashes common to the phenomenon which causes the thunder-storms attending it to assume an exceedingly violent character. the pyramid of Cheops is rendered elec-trical by the whirling dust of the desert may here also be mentioned. It is nothing but the friction of the grains of sand on the surface of the pyramid that causes

electricity to originate. The author of this essay claims that the rapid, enormous and lasting development of electricity during thundertorms can not be otherwise explained than by a purely mechanical cause analagous to the mechanical force of the hy-dro-electrical machine. Now, as our atmosphere contains so much more dust than in former years, the fact must be of great influence regarding the intensity of electrical phenomena during thunder-storms; from the same reasoning are explained volcanic eruptions. That this increased force of thunder storms must manifest itself in the great er violence and more dangerous charac ter of lightning strokes will be evident to the reader. But there is another cause to be mentioned. It is an estab lished fact that air containing solid particles has a conducting power in regard to electric currents far superior to that of pure air. In our day, therefore, here these molecules of dust and solid particles fill the atmosphere to a greater extent, the latter has become a better onductor, and favors a direction of the lightning strokes toward the more impure layers in the vicinity of the earth,

-The New Jersey mosquito is larger

and thirstier than ever this year.

and therefore the earth itself. - Chicago

WHEN INDIANS LAUGH.

A Custom That is Strictly Observed Among the Redskins of the West.

Some Indian school-boys found their To them it was a continual source of amusement to see her run away from them. One day a boy caught one, and shut it up in the table drawer. The teacher entered the room. All were in order; but when she opened the drawer the frog, glad to gain its liberty, leaped out upon the table, and the teacher made a great ado. One of the boys, in No sign of enjoyment could be discerned bered the dismay of the teacher. Why did they not laugh at first? They had not yet come into the ways of white men enough to realize that we would excuse rudeness in our pupils, even under these circumstances, and they consider it rude to laugh aloud, or to laugh at the expense of another in the other presence An old woman who owned a poor old

pony in and tied him to the fence. was literally "skin and bones." While I was in the house I heard the woman making a great outery, and I ran to the door just in time to see an immense flock of crows fly away. I said: "What is the matter?" She replied that the crows had come to pick her poor old pony's bones while he still lived. saw the funny side of it as well as I, and laughed very heartily. When one of the young lady missionaries asked an Indian woman for her "Wakan siea tanka," instead of her "Waksiea tanka," no one laughed till the teacher was gone. When I inquired why the dishoan was not given, the reply was she did not ask for the dish-pan, she asked for "the great evil spirit" (the devil), and I assure you no Indian woman hears that story without laughing heart-Another teacher meaning to ask for a tub asked for a young man, and, though to her face they did not laugh, I have seen a whole sewing school convulsed with laughter over the mistake several times since. When advantage), so that he of the ministers from the one attending one of our meetings went up to a group of Indians who could not speak or understand a word of English and tried to enter into conversation of course there was no response. He said to me as I came up: do they look so solemn?" simply interpreted what he said to the Indians, and all laughed and said: "We did not know what he said; why should we laugh?" It does not seem to occur to those asking the question why they do not laugh that they have but little to laugh at in the presence of white men. They can not understand us or our ways. Indian children are in the house quiet and orderly; they sit and listen to hear older people talk, and if anything is said that is very amusing. so much so that they feel that they can not control themselves, they put their kands on their mouths and run outside to laugh. Men will laugh gently and quietly, and now and then you may hear an old woman laugh long and loud; if so, some relative will say aside: "Hear how she laughs, I ke a white man; she is unwomanly." They are very social people, and around the camp-fire one may hear many legends and fables, hear many old war songs and nursery rhymes. - American Missionary.

A RETIRING WOMAN.

The Disposition of Mrs. Jay Gould-Wh and What She Was and Is. The wife of the great railroad magnate is gentle, affable, courteous, retiring. She would not be called a handsome woman, vet her face is far more attractive than many a beauty. She is well educated, and possesses an air of refinement. She convinces all who come within the sphere of her influence that through her retiring nature she has deprived society af an important ornament. Her inclinations have made her devotee to her family. There is her enjoyment, and she cares little for the deasures that do not in some way tend o bring the entire family together. She is the confidant and constant companion of her daughter Nellie, and passes several hours daily with the three young boys, Edward, Frank and Harold. She participates in their pleas-ures, and is never so happy as when planning some surprise for them. son George, a young man of twenty-four, connected with his father in business, is a source of great pride to her.

Mrs. Gould was a Miss Miller, whose father was a successful grocer of New She was brought up in a well-York. appointed home and has been accustomed to all that wealth and refinement bring from her childhood. Mr. Gould was a partner of a Mr. Leupp in the leather business at the time he married Miss Miller and she brought him a considerable fortune. The grocer's daugh-ter and magnate's wife cares nothing for society and takes no pleasure in entertaining, beyond a pleasant dinner party of her few intimate friends. Yet the fine residence and great wealth of the Goulds would well fit them to entertain in the most elaborate manner. Anything that savors of ostentation is particularly distasteful to Mrs. Gould. It is said that while naturally of a retiring nature and adverse to display, she became more so at the time her band was connected with the late "Jim Fisk." Fisk's blatant manner and vulgar prominence, his open carriages drawn by four horses, his loud style of dress and display of jewelry, were all very obnoxious to Mrs. Gould, and the fact that her husband's name was so continually linked with that of Fisk gave her an even stronger desire to appear modest and to make a marked contrast. While Mrs. Gould posses es some very valuable jewels, they are unobtrusive, and she is more apt to wear

style, although her costumes are of very rich material Mrs. Gould is very fond of their country residence at Irvington, as there she can enjoy the society of her husband, to whom she is greatly attached, without fear of his being interrupted. Mr. Gould built his fine greenhouses particularly for his wife, who is fond of flowers, and she spends a portion of each day among them. Anything that her husband and children can enjoy with her without intrusion from outsiders is her special delight. For this reason she is very fond of their yacht Atalanta, aboard of which they can sail away out of the reach of stocks or bonds or Wall street.

Three young men of the road their bleveles from Mrs. Gould enjoys fine pictures, bronzes and rare brie-a-brae, and her

houses are filled with the finest. She is

fond of music and is therefore giving her daughter Nellie a very thorough musical training. There is little doubt that if Mrs. Gould were asked what she most desired in this world she would teacher had a very great aversion to answer to have her husband relinquish all business and devote his time to home enjoyments with his family .- Philadel-

A ROYAL ARTIST.

The Crown-Princess of the German Em pire and the Way She Works.

Having studied like a student, the Crown Princess now paints as an artist. a gentlemanly way, took up the frog. The powers of the Princess Royal have carried it to the door and threw it out, long been acknowledged in Germany, upon the art of which country she has in their faces. They remained through school hours retaining their selemn dignity. Afterward, as they told it, they laughed until the tears came, laughed over and over again as they remembered the dismand over again as t as she does, in landscape, portraiture and still life, it is perhaps in her portraits that she excels. An artist may be an admirable draughtsman of the figure, he may have the finest technique and a true love of color; he may possess a perfect mastery of carnations (critics always talk a lot about carnations), and yet fail entirely in portraiture. The one essential thing is the instinct of reading character and the power of seizpony which was almost dead from starva-tion and hard work, had brought the ing upon and depicting, with-out exaggerating or burlesque, the salient points in the expression of his sitter. That the Princess Royal possesses this gift may be seen by refer-ring to our last illustration. Without knowing the lady, one feels sure that this is a "speaking" likeness. This may be the result of the careful study of character as expressed in physiognomy, which one expects is a lesson early taught to royal children, or one that is quickly gained in courts, if it be not actually inculcated. There is dignity in the simple treatment of this picture, and the easy pose of this figure has been skilfully eaught.
We believe that the Princess Royal

has studied under Von Angeli for the figure and under Wilberg for landscape. It is perhaps possible to detect the influ ence of the former artist in the drawing of the "Portrait of a Lady." The house of Brandenburg has not the pleasure of the writer's acquaintance (which is an instance that even Imperial rank can not gain on every is unable to speak of the Princess Royal's methods of work or scheme of color. Of one thing he is sure, that she goes direct to nature. There is an air of sincerity and first-handness about the street scene in Pegli which convinces one that the work was faithfully drawn out of doors, and probably finished on the spot. The third picture, "Perishabieness," shows signs of the same conscientious study, and there is an appreciation of just values in it which is very noticeable. Although this picture very well bears translation into black and white, we probably los- much by missing its rich and quiet color. We hope one day to see some of the royal painter's pictures in London, that English people may know that we have an artist of whom we may be proud in the person of a Princess whom we love.—Maqazine of Art.

JAPANESE PRISONS.

Interesting Data Concerning the Penal

Institutions of Japan The Prison Association of New York maintains a through system of correspondence on prison matters with all the civilized and semi-civilized countries of the world. It has just received from Mr. Taneaki Hara, its Japanese correspondent, a summary of the last annual report of the Japanese prisons. This eport shows that there are two kinds prisons: penitentiaries and iails. There are six large penitentiaries. in Tokia with 1,508 prisoners, who work at brick-making; one at Miagi with 1,-348 prisoners working in a slate quarry: one at Muke with 756 prisoners at work in coal mines; one in Kobatoyezo with 1,535 prisoners, and one in Sorachi yezo with 1,259, and one in Kushira yezo with 190 prisoners. In the three last named the labor is utilized in the reclamation of waste lands. There is little attempt at the classification of prisoners, and from twenty-five to forty prisoners occupy each cell. Punishment s the chief thought of the authorities. The Japanese prison system is, how ever, superior to ours, in that prisoners

are allowed some share in their surplus earnings. Every effort is made to promote the health of the prisoners, in which respect there has been a great improvement in recent years. In all the penal ment in recent years. institutions of Japan there are 66,039 prisoners, or rather more than one peron to every 560 of the population. this number, 3,000 are women. This would make it seem that Japan was much more given to law-breaking than the United States, where official records show but one person in 1,000 in the It must be remembered that prisons. our official records are far from correct, and that in the simpler life of Japan more rogues are caught. There is also much allowance to be made for the fact that the average terms of imprisonment are much .onger than with us. Out of every one thousand prisoners more than six hundred have been found guilty of robbery in one of its degrees and sixtythree of murder. The "criminal age, as with us and with the countries of Europe, is from twenty to thirty-five. there being 705 prisoners out of every thousand between those ages. There is no attempt at moral instruction, in which the Japanese prisons are on a par with many of our county jails, but they are all superior to our county jails, in which there is systematic labor. Nearly all of the prisons are entirely self-supporting, and are conducted with a degree of economy that some of our American prison managers might imi tate with great advantage to the public.

—N. Y. Observer.

Living Within One's Income.

The close observer can not fail to notice that the habits of our people are undergoing a decided change. We are no them when alone with her husband and family than in public. In her dress she is also modest in color and longer free-handed and careless, as of yore. We have known the b tterness of poverty, and we have known that economy is the surest means by which to grasp the power that belongs to wealth. This tendency is illustrated on the grand scale, in the case of our banks, which have in recent years pursued the policy of annually laying aside a portion of their profits. The result of this policy is seen in the condition of one of thos institutions which has a reserve consid erably larger than its capital. Our peo-ple, rich and poor alike, are striving to live within their means. This, after all is the fundamental fact of the situation

> Three young men of Boston recent-ly rode their bicycles from that city to New Orleans, a distance of one thousand seven hundred miles.

READING FOR THE YOUNG.

THEORY.

The theoretic turtle started out to see the tond; He came to a stop at a liberty-pole in the middle of the road.

"Now how, in the name of the sporting whale," the indignant turtle cried, "can I climb this perpendicular cliff, and get on the other side?

"If I only could make a big billoon, Id lightly over it fly: Or a very long ladder might reach the top, though it does look fearfully high.

"If a beaver were in my place, he'd gnaw a passage th ough with his teeth; I can't do that, but I can dig a tunnel and pass beneath." He was digging his tunnel, with might and main, when a dog looked down at the

"The ensiest way, my friend," said he, "is to walk around the pole." -A. R. Wells, in St. Nicholas.

A BOY HERO.

What Tommy Brown Did to Protect His Little Brother. He was only six years old, little pioneer out in Oregon. (Look on the map, as always, and find Oregon, if you don't know where it is.) Pioneers have discomforts and privations that the people in older settlements do not dream of. They are often twenty miles away from any store. If any thing has happened that they have not laid in a supply of meat, flour and meal, and these things give out at home, it becomes a very serious business. If the roads are snowed up, or if the mud is so deep as to make them impassable, is a chance that the pioneer's family may go hungry; they may even starve. Provisions had given out in the family of Mr. Brown. There had been a deep, soft snow, so the roads were very bad indeed; but food must be had, or his babies would have nothing to eat. So the father started with als wagon to the store, twenty miles He was a long time getting

there, for the road was so heavy.

Mr. Brown loaded his wagon, and started back; but a tremendous fall of snow came and blinded him and blocked his way. The storm continued several days. The forlorn man staggered on as best he could, but it grew colder and colder. He began to be chilled through. Nobody knew what finally happened to him in those awful hours, or what he thought about. For he never came home. When the storm cleared away, and people went to look for him, they found him frozen stiff and dead in the road. His wife was dead, and his children had been left at home alone to wait till he came back with the provisions. What had become of them, poor babies? It had not been so very cold when he left home, and nobody thought any thing would happen. There were two children Tommy and a younger brother, only four years old. Their father would have hardly dared to leave them, ex-cept that he had a beautiful and faithful shepherd dog. This noble animal was used to taking care of the children just as if they had been two lambs. His name was "Shep." He watched and guarded them at play during th

hours when their papa was obliged to leave them alone. The little creatures and the faithful dog waited all day for Mr. Brown to come back. They went to bed, and to sleep, and still the father was not there next morning. They began to get hun-gry as the day wore on; but another night passed, and the next morning they were hungry indeed. They thought they would go out and try to find papa. They were not very warmly dressed, but out they went. They wandered into the woods, Shep after left their cabin. They walked and walked, and creed bitterly; but no papa came. Shep hugged as close to them There were wild animals as he could. n the woods that would have attacked and devoured the helpless babies, only He was as brave as a lion and faithful as a father. Worn out at last when darkness came, they huddled down against Shep's warm coat and lay there. It is the greatest wonder they did not die with the cold; but they did not. Toward morning it became warmer and began to rain. How the poor things suffered when morning came! They had no hope and no refuge but Shep. They hugged him, and cried together. They called till they could shout no longer, but nobody came. At last, the younger brother

"Tommy, O Tommy, I'm freezing to death!" Then what do you think this brave, tender big brother did?-big brother, though he was only six years old. He took his own coat off, all the warm garment he had, and wrapped it around the younger child. The poured in torrents, and Tommy had nothing upon his shoulders but a cotton shirt: but he bore it all, and pulled the coat close about his baby brother. There is not the least doubt the little fellow would have frozen to death but for this. So at last the neighbors found them out at noon Monday, cuddled down close together-Tommy, the small brother, and Shep. A few hours more, and both the children would have been dead. But how much the kind-hearted people made over them, when they did discover them! There was hardly any thing good enough for those two whom the storm had left fatherless. They will find plenty of friends now. But Tommy the bravest, noblest little lad I have heard of in many a day. He is one of the heroes of the world.-N. W. Christian Advocate.

CANDY-MAKING

Facts of Interest to Our Young Readers Concerning This Vast Industry.

How many of the boys and girls who read the Christian Union know or even think what a vast industry candymaking is in this country? An article recently published in Harper's Monthly, written by Mr. R. R. Bowker, tells us many interesting facts.

In 1880 there were in the United States 13,692 confectioners. In New York City alone there are at the present time several large factories where hundreds of boys and girls as well as men and women are employed. It is said that people employed in candy factories are not fond of candy-rarely taste it after the first few days

Stick candy is made by boiling down, with water, letter A sugar. Cream of tartar is added to prevent crystalliza-tion. When it has reached the proper consistency it is kneaded like bread or a marble table, when the flavoring and the coloring matter are added. It is then "pulled," as you have frequently seen molasses candy when passing a confectioner's window. After it has been thoroughly worked and drawn into long sticks of the proper thickness, it is cut off by large shears into the length of the penny sticks which

Mr. Bowker in his article tells us

"Lozenges are rolled out like pie-crust, sometimes printed in carmine with a hand-stamp, and then cut out with dies. 'Sugarplums' and sugared almonds are made in a very interesting way, by 'hrowing the nut, seed, or other nucleus with boiling sugar into great copper pans, which are shaken by handor revolved by machinery over a hot fire. Rolled over and over in the moist sugar, the plums soon begin to grow, and are 'polished off by each other, while, above, steam-worked fans carry off the dry dust. Gumdrops are made of gum-arabic and sugar, boiled and mized, seven or eight hundred pounds at a lime, in huge copper steam-kettles, whence the mixture is taken out into smaller kettles to be flavored and colored. The cheap gumdrops and 'marsh-mallows' are now made chiefly from glucose."

Glucose is made from starch, and is much cheaper than sugar, but is not nearly so sweet. If you should eat a piece of pure sugar candy, and then candy made principally of glucose, you would readily detect the difference.

Glucose enters largely into the manufacture of marsh-mallows, and terra alba into cheap lozenges. Plaster-of-Paris molds are used to form the cream candies having various devices and shapes. The sugar cream is poured, while hot, into the little molds that Tommy Brown. His father was a have been powdered with starch, and are then placed in a very het room to

Mr. Bowker says: Mr. Bowker says:

"Cream or soft candies are made in a simple way, from sugar mixed with cream of tariar to prevent crystallizing. To give them their funcy forms, a flat tray is filled with starch which is pressed into molds by a series of plaster-of-Paris models—a drop, hand, face, berry, or what it may be—arranged on a long stick. Into these starch molds the hot cream is poured, and then allowed to dry. Some feetories have as much as fifty thousand pounds of starch in this use. The drying-room is kept at a high temperature, in which the 'creams' soon become dry and solid. They are then separated from the starch by huge sieves. If they are to be glossed, they are placed in huge tin pans and a cold solution of sugar poured over them to stand over night. In the morning the ice of sugar on top is broken, and the 'creams' are found coated with fine crystals. The fluqueur drops are a very curious product. The sirup is mixed with brandy or flavored water, and is poured into the starch molds. As it cools at the top and on the mold, the crystals make a continuous case, imprisoning the liquor within."

If you have a favorite candy store, you would better test a part of your

you would better test a part of your next purchase for terra alba, a white clay that will not dissolve in water and is very injurious if taken into the stomach. Colored candies are sometimes poisonous, and green and blue candies should be avoided. There are safe vegetable coloring matters-burnt sugar for brown, saffron for yellow, cochineal for red. These are not as cheap as the mineral colors that are used by many manufacturers.

Boys and girls who wish to make strong, active men and women eat sparingly of candy. It is bad for the eeth, and, if eaten shortly before meals, destroys the appetite for nour-ishing foods.—Christian Union.

PRETTY APRONS.

The Many Differ ent Ways in Which They May Be Made.

Those of scrim or congress canvas are very pretty. They can be made of any size to suit the taste of the wearer. Put a broad hem all around the four sides. Draw threads across the bottom, one space or several. If one broad space is made fill it in with narrow ribbons woven in and out in a sort of basket work. If several narrow spaces are preferred, use ribbon to run in the width of the spaces. Should the striped scrim be used, it can be trimmed in various pretty ways. Ribbons can be run in the open work part of the stripe, and then along each side, crazy stitches may be put in with brighthued silks. The ribbon to tie it with is drawn through the bom at the top. Pongee aprons are made which are much liked. A very tasteful one has a broad hem all around, and a cluster of tucks above the hem across the bottom. In the lower corners, above the wash well. Draw scarlet ribbon through the hem at the top to tie it with. This can be taken out before it is sent to the laundry. Another most convenient apron is made of pongee to be worn by one who is sewing or knitting. Get a yard of material, make a hem an inch and a half wide upon the four sides. Turn it down across the bottom in the opposite way from the sides and top. Then turn the bottom up a quarter of yard, stitch the sides tight, and then put the three rows of stitching perpenlicularly at equal distances from each other and from the edges. These will divide it into compartments into which can be dropped thread, scissors, etc., when working. A little design etched upon the center of each of these will dd much to the beauty of the apron. Linen can be made up in the same way. A finish of torehon lace across the top of the turned up piece, when linen is used, is very pretty. Swiss aprons, etched and tied with bright ribbons, are very dainty for home wear. White linen, with a hem all around, and then strips of scarlet or blue stitched above, are very handsome. These strips may be made one wide or one or two narrow ones each side, or a number of narrow ones. -N. E. Farmer.

THRILLING SIGHTS.

Pennsylvania Natural Gas Wells Fired by Flashes of Lightning.

The burning of natural gas wells in Pennsylvania are sights as thrilling to the beholder as they are dangerous to adjacent property. Recently one of these wells took fire, and a volume of flame shot up into the air for several hundred feet with a velocity that was astounding, showing that the pressure of gas from beneath was something beyond comprehension. This well burned for a long time in spite of all efforts to shut off the flame. It was finally done by means of a huge extinguisher, which was advanced slowly to the mouth of the well and then raised vertically, thus shutting off the air and smothering the flame.

A few days since, one of these wells was set on fire in a very curious man-ner. The workmen had drilled down until gas in small quantities was found to arise through the boring. A sudden storm came up, the atmosphere became thick and prevented the gas from ris-ing freely. The workmen anticipated ing freely. The workmen anticipated trouble, and hastily departed from the well. They had scarcely got to a safe distance when a flash of lightning ignited the gas in the atmosphere over the well; flames instantly communi-cated to the well itself, the result being that the gas in the lower regions was released, and shot upward with a terrific flame to a height of two hun-dred feet or more. The well burned for several days, the column of flaming gas mounting into the air and lighting up the surrounding country for miles. Another well was struck at the same time in another section of the oil rethreatening adjacent property. Fire occurring in the products of the oil re-gions, whether gas or oil, are extreme

SABBATH-DAY READING.

BLIND ATHEISM.

The sun shines on the waters; and the waters to the wall

of my poor cabin, narrow, dark and small,

Fling a perpetual unpurposed flow

of luminous pulses dancing to and fro:

And from the wall the many-flickering show

Shoots to my eye,

Far traveled from its fountain in the sky

Suppose me born and bred in such small Cabined and cribbed, with never a look out

side

Or upward to the bright, expansite dome
Which men call Heaven, what should I say
of Light?
I'd say, belike, it was a tangled maze
Of fronklish rays,
Flitting about to feed my wondering gaze,
Redeemed such-wise from Chaos and old
Night—

Redeemed such-wise from Chaos and Night—
A bright confusion without law or rule, And for the Sun, the glorious lord of day And his all-permeant, all-plastic ray For that I knew no Sun, mayhap I'd say There is no Sun in Heaven—and be a fool As Atheists are—blind guides who go school school with outward sense, and what there sonse compels
Alone believe. Be wiser thou, and know, Behind all shadowy show
Acausoful Substance dwells:
Behind all tangled maze
Of crowded things that try the wordering

In air, in water, and in teeming sed,
A Reason works, which wisely men call God
—John Stuart Blackie, in Cassell's Mayazine.

CHRISTIAN CHARITY.

One of the Earliest and Noblest Outtices.

There is certainly no other feature of he old civilization so repulsive as the indifference to suffering that it displayed. Very different was the aspect presented by the early church. Long before the era of persecution had closed, the hospital and the xenodochion, or refuge for strangers, were known among the Christians. The epitaphs in the catacombs abundantly prove the multitude of foundlings that were sustained by their charity; and when Christianity became the dominant religion the protection of infants was one of the first changes that was manifested in the laws. The frequent famines and the frightful distress caused by the invasion of the barbarians and by the transition from slavery to freedom, were met by the most boundless, the most lavish, benevolence. The Fathers were ceaselessly exhorting to charity, and in language so emphatic that it seemed sometimes almost to ig-nore the rights of property, and to verge upon absolute communism. The gladatorial games were ceaselessly denounced, but the affection with which they were regarded by the people long resisted the efforts of the philanthro-pists, till, in the midst of the spectacle, the monk Telemachus rushed between the combatants, and his blood was the last that stained the arena. But perhaps the noblest testimony to the extent and catholicity of Christian charity was furnished by an adversary. Julian exerted all his energies to produce a charitable movement among the Pagans, "for it is a scandal." that the Galileans should support the destitute, not only of their religion, but of ours.

In reading the history of that noble efflorescence of charity which marked the first ages of Christianity, it is impossible to avoid reflecting upon the strange destiny which has consigned almost all its authors to obscurity, while the names of those who took any conspicuous part in sectarian history bave become household words among mankind. We hear much of martyrs who sealed their testimony with blood; of courageous missionaries, who planted the standard of the Cross among savage nations and in pestilential climes; but we hear little of that heroism of charity which, with no precedent to hem, etch some design of flowers | guide it, and with every early habit to them. It was Sunday morning when in scarlet or cardinal, which colors oppose it, confronted the most loathsome forms of suffering, and, for first time in the history of humanity, made pain and disease the objects of a reverential affection. In the intellectual condition of by-gone centuries, it was impossible that these things should be appreciated as they deserved. Charity was practiced, indeed, nobly and constantly, but it did not strike the imagination, it did not elicit the homage of mankind. It was regarded by the masses as an entirely subordinate department of virtue; and the noblest efforts of philanthropy excited far less admiration than the maceration of an anchorite or the proselytizing zeal of a sectarian. Fabiola, that Roman lady who seems to have done more than any other single individual in the creation of the first hospitals; St. Landry, the great apostle of charity in Franca, even Telemachus himself, are all obscure names in history. The men who organized that vast net work in hospitals that overspread Europe after the Crusades have passed altogether from recollection. It was not till the seventeenth century, when modern habits of thought were widely diffused, that St. Vincent de Paul arose, and furnished an example of a saint who is profoundly and univer-sally revered, and who owes that reverence to the splendor of his char-

> But, although it is true that during many centuries the philanthropist was placed upon a far lower level than at present, it is not the less true that charity was one of the earliest, as it was one of the noblest, creations of Christianity, and that, independently of the incalculable mass of suffering it has assuaged, the influence it has exercised in softening and purifying the character, in restraining the passions, and enlarging the sympathies of man-kind, has made it one of the most important elements of our civilization. The precepts and examples of the Gos pel struck a chord of pathos which the noblest philosophies of antiquity had never reached. For the first time the aureole of sanctity encircled the brow of sorrow and invested it with a mys-terious charm. It is related of an old Catholic saint that, at the evening of s laborious and well-spent life, Christ appeared to him as a man of sorrows. and, commending his past exertions, asked him what reward he would desire. Fame, and wealth, and earthly pleasures had no attractions to one who had long been weaned from the who had long been weather from the things of sense; yet the prospect of other and spiritual blessings for a mo-ment thrilled the saint with joy; but when he looked upon the sacred brow. still shadowed as with the anguish of Gethsemane, every selfish wish was forgotten, and, with a voice of ineffalove, he answered: "Lord, that I might suffer most!"-Cor. Internation

—In the laboratory of life each new comer repeats the old experiments, and laughs and weeps for himself. We will be explorers, though all the high-ways have their sign-boards and every by-path is mapped.—A. S. Hardy.

—I have always preferred cheerfulness to mirth. The latter I consider as an act, the former as a habit, of the mind.—Addison.